



# TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, September 03, 2025 at 6:00 PM  
Fulton Council Chambers, 201 N. 7th Street

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## MINUTES

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### CALL TO ORDER

#### PRESENT

Mayor Kelli Cole  
Mayor Pro Tem Robert Loflin  
Place 2 Chris Garis Place  
Place 3 MaryAnn Pahmiyer  
Place 4 Margo Nielsen  
Place 5 Laura McCorkle

#### STAFF PRESENT

Stephanie Garcia, City Secretary  
Robert Brake, Sargeant  
Jessica Dougherty, Officer  
Steven Robertson, Comptroller

Mayor Cole called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – U.S. Flag and Texas Flag

Mayor Cole led everyone in the pledges.

### OBSERVE A MOMENT OF SILENCE/PRAAYER

Mayor Cole led everyone in a moment of silence.

### CITIZENS TO BE HEARD (PUBLIC FORUM)

*Public participation is valued and at this time, comments limited to three (3) minutes will be taken from persons who have signed the Speaker's Card located on the table inside the Council Chambers and delivered to the City Secretary before the meeting begins. Written comments received by submission to the City Secretary in person or emailed to [citysec@fultontexas.org](mailto:citysec@fultontexas.org) by 3:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting, on any subject matter that is not on the agenda, will be read and summarized in the minutes of the meeting. Persons wishing to address the Council and who have registered using the Speaker's Card will have up to three (3) minutes to speak. In accordance with the Open Meetings Act, Council may not discuss or take action on any item that has not been posted on the agenda. While civil public criticism is not prohibited; disorderly conduct or disturbance of the peace as prohibited by law shall be cause for the chair to terminate the offender's time to speak.*

Mr. Gwosdz introduced himself and reminded the Council that he will be presenting at the TML conference in Fort Worth, Texas. He invited the Council to the dinner they will hold at the TML conference.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

*All consent agenda items listed are considered to be routine by the Town Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a council Member so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.*

- 1. Discuss/Approve/Disapprove** minutes of the Regular Meeting held on August 20, 2025.

Motion made by Place 5 McCorkle, Seconded by Place 4 Nielsen to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Place 2 Garis, Place 3 Pahmiyer, Place 4 Nielsen, Place 5 McCorkle

## **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

2. Second presentation and general discussion of Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) fund request from the Rockport-Fulton Chamber of Commerce/Visitor Center.

Mayor Cole read the item. Shelly Stuart and Diana Pardue re-introduced themselves. Mrs. Stuart reminded the Council they are asking for \$35,000, provided a breakdown of their costs, and indicated that \$20,000 for administration and \$15,000 for marketing. She briefly discussed the marketing that they have done in the past for the Town and Oysterfest. Mrs. Stuart noted the presentation provided that explains the difference between the Visitor Center and the VCB. Mrs. Pardue informed the Council that when visitors call or come into the Visitor Center, they are sure to promote Fulton as well as Rockport. The Visitor Center is now open on Saturdays. Mayor Cole noted they did a lot of marketing for Oysterfest. Mrs. Stuart reviewed the addendum that she submitted and noted the history wall needs to be expanded. The wall would include features of Fulton and Oysterfest.

3. Second presentation and general discussion of Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) fund request from the Visit Rockport Fulton Convention & Visitor Bureau.

Mayor Cole read the item. Jatin Bhakta and Craig Griffin introduced themselves and Mr. Griffin gave an overview of the expectations of the CVB. He noted it is for the entire County. Their job is to bring people to the County and promote events taking place in the towns. Mr. Bhakta also stated he feels it makes sense to combine it all. They are in the beginning of the establishment of the CVB; however, they feel it will be successful in marking the entire County. Mayor Cole had questions regarding some of the ads. Mr. Bhakta addressed her questions. Mr. Bhakta mentioned they will be including the Fulton Pier in the marketing. Steven Robertson, Comptroller, noted that the application was not completed as to how the funds would be spent, i.e. all marketing. Mr. Bhakta confirmed it will all be used for marketing.

## **PROCLAMATION**

### 4. Proclamation in recognition of Larry Pahmiyer.

Mayor Cole read the proclamation honoring Larry Pahmiyer for his services through the years. Mr. Pahmiyer was surprised by the recognition and thanked everyone. There were members of the Fulton Volunteer Fire Department, and other community members in attendance. Cody Morales, Fire Chief, also honored Mr. Pahmiyer with a certificate from the fire department.

## **CLOSED SESSION**

*The Town Council may elect to go into closed session pursuant to Chapter 551, Government Code on any Agenda item where appropriate and particularly Sections 551.071 (consultation with attorney) and 551.074 (personnel matters), Government Code.*

Council did not convene into Closed Session.

## **OPEN SESSION**

*Discuss/Approve/Disapprove any and all action necessary with regard to the preceding matter(s).*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### 5. Mayor's Update.

Mayor Cole shared that the work on Fulton Beach Road is complete. She noted that the surveying for the GLO project is close to being completed. Bob Dupnik, Commissioner also gave a brief update on the surveying. Mayor Cole informed the Council that the Town will have to have repairs done at the Fulton Convention Center air conditioning system.

Officer Brake introduced Jessica Dougherty to the Council.

### 6. The next Regular Fulton Town Council Meeting will be held Wednesday, September 17, 2025, beginning at 6:00 pm.

Mayor Cole announced the date and time of the next meeting.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mayor Cole entertained a motion to adjourn.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Seconded by Place 2 Garis to adjourn the meeting.

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Loflin, Place 2 Garis, Place 3 Pahmiyer, Place 4 Nielsen, Place 5 McCorkle

The meeting was adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

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Kelli Cole, Mayor

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Stephanie Garcia, City Secretary